

66-435

28 January 1966

*Carol*

The Honorable McGeorge Bundy  
Special Assistant to the President for National  
Security Affairs  
The White House

Dear Mac:

STAT  
Confirming our brief conversation in Clark Clifford's  
outer office, [ ] who has been conducting a survey of  
the intelligence effort devoted to warning of an impending military  
attack, has just about completed his report. Before reaching  
any final judgments about the adequacy and relevance of the  
effort, he would like to talk to a few of the ultimate consumers  
of "warning" information. With this purpose, I will be calling  
your office to see if you could let us have a little time some  
time during the week beginning 7 February.

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What I think [ ] is particularly concerned to find out  
is what awareness there is on the part of senior policy officials  
of what is called the warning mechanism; what use it has been  
in the past, and what use you foresee for it in the future. The  
assumption on which we are presently operating is that a certain  
proportion of the intelligence effort should focus exclusively on  
the collection and evaluation of evidence bearing on the likelihood  
of a hostile military attack. Policy officials should presumably  
derive some comfort from confidence that this system is func-  
tioning efficiently (if indeed they are aware of its existence).  
Perhaps the basic question which [ ] would like to ask is what  
kind of evidence you would expect or hope to have as a basis for

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the kinds of decisions that would have to be taken in seriously escalating situations.

I don't think that a discussion of this subject would necessarily take very long, but would be most appreciative if you spare us whatever time appears to be appropriate.

Faithfully yours,

/s/ John A. Bross

John A. Bross

JABROSS:ag (28/1/66)

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